

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELEM 00093 051933Z
ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 EB-08 SSO-00 COME-00 /029 W
-----130185 051938Z /46

O 051720Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL BELEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0743
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

UNCLAS BELEM 0093

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, BR
SUBJECT: OPIC (SCOTT PAPER CO., 512-77-476)

REF: A) STATE 78600 B) BRASILIA 2556 C) TAVARES (OPIC)-BECELIA
TELCON 4/3

1. CONSULATE BELIEVES THAT SUBJECT PROJECT WOULD BRING DEFINITE
SOCIAL/ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO AREA OF ITS OPERATION.

2. BRAZIL'S FEDERAL TERRITORIES, OF WHICH AMAPA IS ONE, ARE ISOLATED
AND THINLY-POPULATED. THEY HAVE LAGGED BEHIND THE REST OF THE
COUNTRY IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ARE HEAVILY DEPENDENT
ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT. THUS, CONDITIONS IN
THESE AREAS CANNOT BE RELIABLY JUDGED BY NATIONWIDE STANDARDS AND
STATISTICS.

3. AMAPA (ESTIMATED POPULATION 130,000) HAS A SPECIAL PROBLEM IN
THAT CURRENT MAINSTAY OF ITS ECONOMY IS MANGANESE MINING, AND
INDUSTRY REQUIRING A RELATIVELY SMALL LABOR FORCE ANND, MOREOVER,
ONE WITH UNCERTAIN FUTURE DUE TO DEPLETION OF ORE RESOURCES.
CONSEQUENTLY, FEDERAL AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS ARE STRIVING
FOR ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, A GOAL TOWARD WHICH SUBJECT PROJECT
WOULD STAND TO CONTRIBUTE.

4. LACK OF MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT PLUS SHORT
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DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING OUR COMMENTS PREVENTS FULLER ANALYSIS IN
TERMS OF CRITERIA CONTAINED IN STATE 229108 OF 9/23/77. IT IS
NOTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT SCOTT ANTICIPATES NEED FOR "SIGNIFICANT
AMOUNT OF LOCAL LABOR" WITHOUT MENTIONING NUMBERS. CONSULATE'S
FAVORABLE COMMENTS ABOVE, THEREFORE, ARE BASED PRIMARILY ON AREA'S
DEMONSTRABLE NEED FOR INVESTMENT AND DIVERSIFICATION COUPLED
WITH ASSUMPTION THAT GIVEN AMAPA'S SMALL POPULATION, PROJECT'S

CONTRIBUTION IN EMPLOYMENT AND OTHER TERMS WILL BE SIGNIFICANT.

BECELIA

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BELEM00093
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780147-0508
Format: TEL
From: BELEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780492/aaaaczts.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 71057db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OPIC
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 78600, 78 BRASILIA 2556
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3073532
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPIC (SCOTT PAPER CO., 512-77-476)
TAGS: EINV, BR, OPIC, SCOTT PAPER CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/71057db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014